

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05347 211744Z
ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, OEXC, UR, US
SUBJECT: INTER-ACADEMY AGREEMENT - USE OF POUCH

REF: STATE 70306

1. EMBASSY CANNOT AGREE TO ALLOW FORMER NAS EXCHANGE
RON CAPLE USE OF THE POUCH TO SHIP CHEMICAL REAGENTS
TO A COLLEAGUE IN THE USSR DESPITE THE POSSIBLE VALUE TO
THE EMBASSY OF ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH
SOVIET SCIENTISTS AT THE ZALINSKIY INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC
CHEMISTRY. WE BASE OUR REFUSAL ON THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

A. SUCH A SHIPMENT WOULD VIOLATE DEPARTMENTAL AND
EMBASSY PROCEDURES REGARDING THE USE OF THE DIPLOMATIC
POUCH. TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, SOVIET AUTHORITIES WOULD
BE AWARE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES;

B. CAPLE IS NOT AT PRESENT AN NAS EXCHANGE WITH NO
OFFICIAL CONNECTIONS WITH THE EMBASSY. HIS EXCHANGE OF
MATERIALS WITH SOVIET SCIENTISTS IS THEREFORE AN
ENTIRELY PRIVATE MATTER; AND

C. SAFETY: BECAUSE OF THE REACTIVE NATURE OF THE
CHEMICALS TO BE SHIPPED.

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2. PLEASE ADVISE CAPLE THAT THE BEST COURSE OF ACTION
OPEN TO HIM IS TO AIRSHIP THE REAGENTS IN CARE OF THE
DIRECTOR, ZALINSKIY INSTITUTE, AND TO ADVISE THE
INSTITUTE OF THE SHIPMENT'S AIRWAYBILL NUMBER BY TELEX.
THIS SHOULD EXPEDITE CUSTOMS HANDLING HERE. TOON

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NNN

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